

**THE GENUS *POGONOCHERUS* ZETT. (COL.: LAMIIDAE)  
IN THE BRITISH ISLES**

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COUNTIES and vice-counties are represented by Brownean alphabetical symbols (Kaufmann, 1989); those italicised indicate a widespread common species.

***Pogonocherus hispidulus* Pill. & Mitt.**

Generally distributed in England, becoming rarer in the north. There is a shortage of records from elsewhere in the British Isles.

ENGLAND: BD *BK* BX CB *CH CU* DM *DT* DY EC *EK* EN *ES EX EY*  
GE GW *HF HT* HU *IW L LN LR* MX MY ND NH NM NO NS OX SD SE  
SH SL SN SP *SR SS ST SY* WC WK WL WN WO *WW WX WY*

WALES: DB GM PB RA

SCOTLAND: AM AY ED EL PM

IRELAND: AR NK SK WI

The larva is associated with alder, apple, aspen, beech, birch, cherry, crabapple, elder, elm, fig, hawthorn, hazel, hornbeam, ivy, lime, oak, pear, plane, plum, snowy mespil, spindle tree and *Viburnum*.

Reineck (1919) names Scots pine and spruce among the larval host trees: this is questioned by Duffy (1953); Planet (1924), too, states that the larva is confined to trees of a non-resinous nature.

The larva is parasitised by these Braconids:—

*Cenocoelius agriculator* L., *C. analis* Nees, *Doryctes undulatus* Ratz. and *Habrobracon palpebrator* Ratz.

The pupa normally overwinters, metamorphosis taking two years to complete, but sometimes, depending upon climatic conditions, eclosion occurs rather earlier such that the adult insect emerges in the autumn. Thus, it may be found as late as October or from March onwards throughout the seasons.

The imagines may be taken from off their host plants and also by beating dead hedges, nettles, old posts and wattle fencing. *P. hispidulus* is illustrated by Donovan (1793).

***P. hispidus* L.**

Like the foregoing species generally distributed but scarcer locally in the north of England. Scottish and Irish records are more plentiful.

ENGLAND: *BK* BX CB CH *CU* DM *DT* DY EC *EK* EN *ES EX EY* GE  
*GW HF HT* HU IW L LN *LR* MM MX MY ND NE NH NM NO NS NW  
OX *SD SE SH SL SN SP SR SS ST SW* WC *WK WL WN* WO WS *WW*  
WX



WALES: DB GM MG RA

SCOTLAND: AM AS AY DF ED EI EL LA

IRELAND: CV DU KC NK SK WG WI WX

The polyphagous larva is found in an even wider range of brood trees than the preceding species. These include alder, apple, beech, birch, blackthorn, buckthorn, *Cotoneaster*, crabapple, dogwood, elm, fig, hawthorn, hazel, holly, hornbeam, ivy, laurel, lime, mistletoe, oak, pear, plum, raspberry canes, rose, rowan, willow, spindle tree, *Viburnum*, walnut and willow. In Scandinavia it has attacked Jerusalem artichokes (Bilý & Mehl, 1989)!

Reinbeck also names Scots pine and spruce as the pabula of this species. Duffy's view (*op. cit.*) is that the larva has possibly been confused with that of *P. fasciculatus*. On the other hand, both deciduous and coniferous growths are listed as host trees for *P. hispidulus* and *P. hispidus* by Klausnitzer & Sander (1981).

The larva of the latter is parasitised by these Hymenoptera:— *Cenocoelius agriculator* L., *Doryctes undulatus* Ratz., *Ephialtes manifestator* L., *E. tenebrans* Ratz. and *Eurytoma eccoptogastri* Ratz.

The life cycle varies between one and two years. In normal circumstances the pupa forms during the second year and overwinters; if, however, the autumn months are exceptionally mild, eclosion takes place before the cold weather sets in, the adults emerging in October. Otherwise, *hispidus* occurs from April until September and may be beaten off or swept from the parent trees, faggots, furze, hedges and herbage, oak hurdles and the flowers of guelder rose, holly and ivy.

### *P. fasciculatus* Deg.

This is the third exclusively Scottish Longhorn beetle, confined chiefly to the ancient Highland forests where it is now scarce, and a few Lowland counties where it is equally rare. It has been exported southwards, occurring adventively in some English counties.

SCOTLAND: AS DF EI EL LL PM

Fortuitous introductions:

ENGLAND: DM DY EN (see below) ES EY LN MY ST SY

Stephens (1831) recorded two indigenous specimens "both . . . captured near Norwich." The reference was later queried by Fowler (1890). This is of some significance because in an old pinewood plantation in the neighbourhood of Norwich *fasciculatus* evidently founded quite a flourishing colony — whatever its origins — undisturbed (as was *Leptura rubra* L. in the same area) for a very long time. However, in the present century the insect no longer escaped the attention of entomologists — one collector alone took some two dozen examples during a couple of hours' search there — so it is feared that *fasciculatus* has been eliminated from that part of East Anglia: no new records of its capture from Norfolk have



been published since 1953. Joy (1976) gives Grimsby, Lincs, as another East Anglian locality for the beetle, but the record is based on a single specimen taken in a garden by Dr Wallace (Fowler & Donisthorpe, 1913).

The larva is found in the dead and dying branches of fir, larch, Norway spruce and Scots pine. Klausnitzer (1981) has also recorded it from chestnut trees.

The larva is parasitised by these Hymenoptera:—

*Bracon flavulatus* Ratz., *Cenocoelius agriculator* L., *C. analis* Nees, *Doryctes igneus* Ratz., *Ephialtes extricator* Nees, *E. manifestator* L., *E. sagax* Htg., *E. terebrans* Ratz., *Habrocytus dahlbomi* Ratz., *H. guttatus* Ratz., *H. undulatus* Ratz., *Hemiteles aestivalis*, var. *modestus* Grav., *H. melanarius* Grav., *Iphiaulax flavator* F., *Pteromalis pogonocheri* Ratz. and *Pyracmon xoridiformis* Holmgr.

Pupation takes place in the autumn; the pupa sometimes overwinters, in which case metamorphosis will extend from one to two years.

The imagines eclose in very early spring, the adults emerging in March, when they may be beaten off dead, lopped off branches and dying needles of their coniferous host plants. The beetles occur until as late as October. Those that turn up accidentally are usually found in undecorticated planks and pit props.

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**A record of *Utetheisa pulchella* Linn. at m.v. light at Buckland, near Reigate, Surrey.**

A specimen of this rare migrant was found in my garden trap on the morning of 6th October 1990. The specimen, a male, was exhibited alive at the annual exhibition of the AES later the same day.— COLIN HART, Fourpenny Cottage, Dungates Lane, Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey RH3 7BD.